



AUTUMN

Some Helpful Hints

Estimating Hail Size

Estimating Wind Speed

HAIL SIZE	DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATE	DESCRIPTION
1/4 inch	Pea Size	25-31 mph	Large branches in motion; whistling heard in telephone wires
1/2 inch	Marble Size		
3/4 inch	Dime Size		
7/8 inch	Nickel Size	32-38 mph	Whole trees in motion; inconvenience felt walking against the wind
1 inch	Quarter Size		
1 1/4 inches	Half Dollar Size	39-54 mph	Twigs break off trees; wind generally impedes progress
1 1/2 inches	Ping Pong Ball Size		
1 3/4 inches	Golf Ball Size	55-72 mph	Damage to chimneys and TV-antennas; pushes over shallow rooted trees
2 inches	Hen Egg Size		
2 1/2 inches	Tennis Ball Size	73-112 mph	Peels surfaces off roofs; windows broken; light mobile homes pushed or overturned; cars pushed off road
2 3/4 inches	Baseball Size		
3 inches	Teacup Size	113-157 mph	Roofs torn off houses; cars lifted off ground; severe and widespread damage.
4 inches	Grapefruit Size		
4 1/2 inches	Softball Size		

Estimating Rainfall Rates

Light	Ranging from scattered drops that do not completely wet an exposed surface regardless of duration to a condition where individual drops are easily seen; slight spray is observed over pavement; puddles form slowly; sound on roofs ranges from slow pattering to gently swishing; steady, small streams may flow in downspouts. Hourly accumulation of rain is up to .10 inches per hour with a six minute accumulation up to .01 inches.
Moderate	Individual drops are not clearly identifiable; spray is observable just above pavement and other hard surfaces; puddles form rapidly; downspouts on buildings are 1/4 to 1/2 full; sound on roofs ranges from swishing to a gentle roar. Hourly accumulation of rain is .11 to .30 inches per hour with a six minute accumulation of .01 to .03 inches.
Heavy	Rain seems to fall in sheets; individual drops are not identifiable; heavy spray to height of several inches is observed over hard surfaces; downspouts on buildings run more than 1/2 full; visibility is greatly reduced; sound on roofs resembles roll of drums or distant roar. Hourly accumulation of rain is greater than .30 inches per hour with a six minute accumulation of more than .03 inches.